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### THE HERMIT KINGDOM.

Korean commerce amounts, according to a statement just issued by the Department of Commerce and Labor through its Bureau of Statistics, to about fifteen million dollars per annum. Imports materially exceed exports, and according to the best statement that the Bureau of Statistics is able to obtain, amount to about ten million dollars. While in the case of China the foreign commerce of the country is carried on chiefly, almost exclusively, through the "treaty ports," this is not the case with reference to Korea, only about one-third of the foreign commerce above alluded to passing through the treaty ports.

American products, both manufactured and otherwise, are popular in Korea, but the very large proportion reach that country through China and Japan, and the direct trade of the United States with Korea is extremely small. It is only within a comparatively short time that the direct trade of the United States with Korea was of sufficient importance to justify a separate record. In 1897 the exports from the United States to Korea were \$509 in value; in 1898, \$125,000; in 1902, \$251,000, and for the eleven months ending with November, 1903, \$366,919, indicating that for the entire calendar year 1903 the total exports from the United States will amount to about \$400,000.

While this is a rapid growth, it does not show by any means the entire value of merchandise from the United States entering Korea. As above indicated many of these articles from the United States consumed by Korea are sent first to Japan or China and from those countries shipped into Korea. The value of American petroleum consumed in Korea in 1901 is stated at over \$300,000; machinery and supplies, \$250,000, and electrical goods and lumber, \$236,000. These importations of merchandise from the United States were due in part, largely, perhaps, to the presence of Americans engaged in mining operations in Korea and the purchase by them in the United States of machinery and supplies for that work.

The Statesman's Yearbook puts the total trade passing through the "treaty ports" of Korea at ten million yen of imports and about nine million yen of exports in 1897, and in 1901, fifteen million yen of imports, but only nine million yen of exports, thus indicating the growth, especially in imports, which in 1901 were over 60 per cent in excess of those of 1897. These figures, however, relate to the treaty ports only. The value of the yen is about 50 cents, or practically identical in value with the Japanese yen.

The imports are chiefly cotton and woolen goods, metals, kerosene, silk, and machinery for the use of the railways and those engaged in their construction. The chief exports are rice, beans, hide, ginseng, and copper. The currency chiefly consists of copper cash and nickel coins, gold and silver coins being out of circulation. The total currency is stated as aggregating about \$22,000,000 of which \$6,000,000 is copper cash, \$14,000,000 nickel, \$1,550,000 Japanese coins, and \$530,000 Korean silver dollars.

Eight ports of Korea are open to foreign trade and are classed as "treaty ports." Treaties were made between Korea and the United States in 1882, and in the same year with China; in 1883 with Germany and Great Britain; in 1884 with Russia and Italy; in 1886 with France; in 1892 with Austria; and in 1899 a further treaty with China. Under these treaties Chemulpo, Fusan, Wunsan, Seoul (the capital), Chinampo, Mokpo, Songchin, Masampo, and Kunsan have been opened to trade. The actual trade through non-treaty ports, however, is, as already indicated, much greater than that through the treaty ports—probably fully double.

The trade of Korea with Japan is growing more rapidly than with any other country, the importation of cotton goods from Japan amounting to from two to three million yen annually. Cotton goods are the largest single article in the value of imports into Korea, amounting to between six and seven million yen annually. Silk goods amount to about one and a half million yen per annum. The chief articles of export are rice, 4 1/2 million yen in value; beans, 2 million yen; hides, 650,000 yen; and ginseng, 527,000 yen.

The minerals of Korea are of considerable value. Copper, iron, and coal are reported as abundant, and gold and silver mines are being successfully operated, an American company having charge of and operating

a gold mine at the treaty port of Wunsan under a concession granted in 1895. Concessions have also been granted to Russian, German, Japanese and French subjects.

Railways, telegraphs, telephones, and a postal system have been recently introduced into Korea. A railway from the seaport of Chemulpo to Seoul, the capital, a distance of 26 miles, was built by American contractors, and has reduced the time between the seaport and capital from eight hours to one and three-quarters hours. The Seoul Electric Company, organized chiefly by Americans and with American capital, has built and operated an electrical railway near Seoul, which is much used by the natives. The electrical plant is said to be the largest single electrical plant in Asia. The machinery is imported from the United States, and the consulting engineer, a Japanese, is a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Transportation in the interior is chiefly carried on by porters, pack horses, and oxen, though small river steamers owned by Japanese run on such of the streams as are of sufficient size to justify the use of steamers.

The area of Korea is estimated at 22,000 square miles, or about equal to that of the State of Kansas. The population is variously estimated at from eight to sixteen millions. The foreign population consists of about 20,000 Japanese, 5000 Chinese, 200 Americans, 100 British, 100 French, 100 Russians, 50 Germans, and about 50 of various other nationalities. The postal system is under French direction and has, in addition to the central bureau at Seoul, 37 postal stations in full operation and 326 sub-stations for registered correspondence.

### Living on 15 Cents a Day

Maj. William H. Bean of the United States army, department of the Missouri, has made himself a target for the curiosity of womankind in every part of the United States. For years he has studied the food problem. When he became attached to the commissary department of the army three years ago he had an opportunity to try his experiments on a large scale. He has solved the problem of "how to live on 15 cents a day" to his own satisfaction, and that of a large number of husky workmen who are employed as day laborers by the department of the Missouri and who have been made part of the experiment.

When the people were invited to go out to where these men were being fed every day and partake of the food themselves, half of the housekeepers of Omaha got excited, and now there are hundreds of homes here where what has come to be known as the "Bean system"—not the bean of commerce, but the Bean of the army—is an active and successful operation. The fare served at various times during the experimental period consisted of roast beef, bacon, beans, potatoes, onions, corn meal, prunes, canned tomatoes, coffee, all the condiments and all kinds of bread. Everything of the character of warmed-over dishes and hash was barred.

The cost was figured up carefully and it was found that the average of each meal per man, including the cooking and incidental service, was a little over four cents. In no one day did the cost of a meal exceed five cents.

### Queer Signs of New York.

Signs seen in New York city indicate strange ways of gaining a livelihood. Among them are:

"Birds are boarded here by the day, week or month."

"Dogs' ears and tails are cut in the latest fashion."

"I educate cross cats and dogs to be gentle and well-behaved."

"Round-shouldered people made straight."

"Perfect grace is taught in twelve lessons; satisfaction guaranteed."

"Beauty pads for thin ladies."

"Ladies deficient in wardrobe are fashionably dressed on easy monthly installments."

"Sore eyes in poodles effectually cured here."

"Babies are hired or exchanged."

"Old sets of artificial teeth are bought and sold."

"Black eyes are artfully painted over."

"Pulse noses as good as new and warranted to fit."

"Dine here and you will never dine anywhere else."

"Why walk about in misery when I can bury you decently for \$18?"

## DR. COOPER APPOINTED ON FEDERAL COMMITTEE

There is no doubt now that the prestige and the resources of the Government of the United States will hereafter be at the back of scientific efforts to discover a cure for leprosy.

Simultaneously with a movement by the Board of Health to enlist Federal aid in this object, the interest of the Federal health authorities at Washington in the very same thing is practically expressed. At the instant that the Board is inviting Dr. Cooper, the Federal health representative here, to join the committee of its medical men with the purpose of facilitating co-operation in the cause of scientific research, Surgeon General Wyman is appointing the president of the Board as a member of a national medical committee formed to promote the same momentously important cause. The respective actions at both ends of the line are taken entirely independent of each other, yet they coincide exactly in promoting the end that the movers so far apart are seeking.

Dr. Cooper's cheerful acceptance of membership on the local committee was received by the Board of Health in regular session yesterday. At the same meeting the following tender of the chairmanship of the national committee by Surgeon General Wyman to Dr. Cooper was read:

SURGEON GENERAL'S LETTER.  
Treasury Department.

Washington, December 29, 1903.  
Dr. Charles B. Cooper, President, Territorial Board of Health, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Dear Doctor: I have to invite your attention to the closing page of my address to the Conference of State Health Officers with the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service, held in Washington, D. C., June 3, 1903, relative to the committees to be appointed in this organization. The suggestion having been accepted by the Conference, I have to request that you will act as chairman of the Committee on Leprosy. With you upon this committee will be associated Dr. J. F. Smith, secretary, Superior Board of Health, San Juan, Porto Rico, and Dr. J. C. Nolte, secretary, State Board of Health, New Orleans, La.

I have to request that you will notify me as early as possible of your acceptance of this appointment.

Respectfully,  
WALTER WYMAN,  
Surgeon General.

VERY GREAT COMPLIMENT.

Dr. Cooper, upon the reading of the

letter, made the following remarks to the Board:

"It puts us just where we want to be, especially as it is the desire of this Board to do something for the scientific study of leprosy. To have a member of this Board the chairman of this committee will place this Territory in a position to ask for favors such as it could not otherwise occupy. If possible I shall attend this conference, which is composed of representatives of every State and Territory. I consider it a very great compliment. It is my attention to begin at once preparing data so that I may make as strong a representation as possible of the importance of the subject."

Mr. Smith having asked if the Board should not take some action in the matter, Dr. Cooper stated that he had anticipated the meeting to forward his acceptance of the honor.

Dr. Cooper's reply to the Surgeon General is in the following form:

### LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE.

Board of Health, Territory of Hawaii.  
Honolulu, Hawaii, Jan. 23, 1904.  
Walter Wyman, M. D., Surgeon-General, Washington, D. C.

Dear Doctor: I am just in receipt of your esteemed favor, under date of December 29th, 1903, and also under same cover a copy of the transactions of the "First Annual Conference of State and Territorial Health Officers with the U. S. Public Health and Marine Hospital Service, held June 3rd, 1903."

Your request, that I shall act as Chairman of the Committee on Leprosy at the coming conference, is highly appreciated both personally and I am sure by the Executive of the Territory, and I beg to accept with thanks the high honor. I shall address you a letter of inquiry later.

Again thanking you for the high compliment to this Territory.  
I beg to remain, Very sincerely,  
(Signed) CHAS. B. COOPER.

At the previous meeting of the Board of Health, Dr. Cooper said he was going to the St. Louis Exposition and would extend his trip to Washington, where he hoped to obtain an interview with Surgeon General Wyman on this matter of Federal co-operation.

Catalina Gonzales, one of the five Porto Ricans arrested Tuesday in connection with the theft of a watch, was sent to the reef for three months yesterday by Judge Lindsay on a charge of receiving stolen goods.

## HAWAII LOOKED UPON AS A NEWSPAPERMAN'S PARADISE

The Hawaii Promotion Committee is receiving many letters from mainland newspapers, including editors as well as reporters, asking for positions on the local papers. The letters have been so numerous if all the applicants came to Hawaii they would be able to start about a hundred papers. Hawaii is evidently looked upon as a newspaperman's paradise.

One young man writes from Cripple Creek that he has been an editor for about a year, but is anxious to try the "new field." He received a letter from Governor Carter on the prospects for obtaining employment here, of which the following is an extract:

"Positions in the Territorial Government are naturally given to resident citizens. The places are pretty good when found but they are few and far between. I suggest that any further information you desire on this subject be obtained from the Hawaii Promotion Committee."

The Lindsay Broom Company of Burlington, Iowa, believes that there is room for a broom factory in Hawaii. They have a complete plant which could be operated here equal to a capacity of seventy-five dozen brooms per day. The manager writes that the broom corn is of the same family as sugar cane brush and could be profitably raised here. He states that it takes an average of about three acres to produce one ton of broom corn, which, in his section of the country, sells for from \$90 to \$120 per ton.

The Portland Cement Company of Utah, located at Salt Lake City, inquires as to possibilities for engaging in the manufacture of cement in the islands. In referring to a former letter from the Promotion Committee he acknowledges receipt of the information regarding the trade in cement here, the amount used, and the prices for it laid down at the wharves. The Promotion Committee states that in some places a variety of coral rock was used for making a species of lime.

The manager of the Utah Company in reply states that it seems natural that there should be a yield of the proper ingredients for the manufacture of cement and he asks for a sample of four or five pounds of the stone used for burning lime.

### THE LANGUAGE OF KOREA.

An American missionary who has just arrived in London from Korea says the difficulty of learning the language of Korea is increased enormously owing to the large number of words which, with a slight inflection of the voice, are used over and over again with an entirely different meaning. The missionary in question was preaching to some natives, and assuring them that unless they repented they would go to a place of punishment. Amusement rather than terror was written on the faces of his Oriental listeners. Why on earth, if they rejected his advice and refused to repent, should they be dispatched—to the local police! On another occasion a lecture was delivered, in the course of which a beautiful moral was being drawn from the gay career of the tiny butterfly which was suddenly cut short in the clutches of the spider. The simile, however, fell somewhat short of its intended meaning, and it was not until the laughter had subsided that the lecturer became aware that the victim which had been floundering amid the dainty silken threads of the web was a donkey, which, in the Korean language, it appears, is synonymous with butterfly.

Sunday-school teacher—"We should never do in private what we would not do in public." L'enfant terrible—"How about taking a bath?"

Worth the sacrifice: Staylate—"May I have a kiss before I go?" Miss Weary—"If I give you one will you really go?"

In Chicago union hack-drivers are boycotting funerals. But in time the funeral will turn the laugh on them.—Santa Maria Graphic.

America's message to a certain South American Republic: "Wail Colombia!"—Punch.

## THE BISHOP NONSUITED

### Case of Ejectment Falls Through Third Day.

Bishop Liberty's suit to eject Malle Kamalu Paahao from land adjacent to the Catholic church at Kailhi ended yesterday, the third day of the trial, in a nonsuit.

Mr. Rawlins for the defendant moved for a nonsuit on the ground that the plaintiff had not shown such title as to entitle him to possession of the property.

Judge Gear promptly ruled that, in the court's opinion, under the law the plaintiff had not shown legal title to the premises in dispute, and he would therefore grant the motion for a nonsuit, the plaintiff to pay costs.

Mr. Stewart in presence of the jury excepted to the granting of a nonsuit as contrary to the law and the evidence, and gave notice of motion for a new trial.

The next case in order for trial before Judge Gear is the assumpsit suit of the Capital Building Co. vs. the Henry Waterhouse Trust Co.

Judge De Bolt's jurors were excused the other day until Monday next, on account of the unreadiness of attorneys for jury trials.

### THE MORGAN CASE.

When the prosecution had rested yesterday afternoon in the trial of Jack Morgan for seduction, Chas. Creighton for the defendant moved that the court direct a verdict of acquittal. The motion was argued by the mover and contrary by Deputy Attorney General E. C. Peters. Judge Robinson reserved his decision until 10 o'clock this morning.

Mrs. Peenrich, mother of the complaining witness, Miss Edwards, by a former husband, gave interesting testimony yesterday. She told about Morgan's importunity to obtain her own photograph and how he had, according to his own account, displayed it with pride, as that of his prospective mother-in-law, to his comrades at Camp McKinley. He had also secured a photograph of Irene's younger sister.

More than one witness gave evidence of admissions made by Morgan to unlawful relations with the complaining witness.

### PORTUGUESE MUTUAL BENEFIT.

J. P. Dias, administrator of the estate of F. Botelho, deceased, has filed his final account with a petition for discharge. He charges himself with \$1492.50 and asks to be allowed \$313, showing a balance of \$1089.50. Among the receipts are a death benefit of \$800.00 and a funeral benefit of \$300.00 from the San Antonio Society. It is stated in the petition that the Portuguese Mutual Benefit Society of Hawaii has in its possession a portion of the death benefit of the deceased, being \$193.50 which it claims will only be paid over to the legal guardians of his two minor children.

J. M. Vivas, president of the Portuguese Mutual Benefit Society, petitions that John P. Dias be appointed guardian of Antonia Botelho, a minor, to look after her interest in the estate of her late father. There is about \$600 belonging to Botelho's estate in this society's funds.

### MRS. LUCE'S ESTATE.

Judge De Bolt confirmed the master's report on the final account of A. M. G. Luce, administratrix of the estate of Mary Luce, deceased. Holmes & Stanley appeared for the petitioner. The account was approved and the administratrix ordered to deliver the property to the persons thereto entitled, and to be discharged, upon filing the final receipts of the legatees. Those entitled to the property are Alice Maude Gaskell Luce of Honolulu and Beatrice Mary Gaskell Luce of England, both adopted daughters and devisees and legatees under the will of decedent, share and share alike. The cash balance is \$718.49, the rest of the estate consisting of one and 88-100 acres of land on Wyllie street, Honolulu, and personal property of household furniture, jewelry, wearing apparel, etc. P. D. Kellett, Jr., was allowed a master's fee of \$25.

### W. S. LUCE'S ESTATE.

The master's report on the final account of Alice M. G. Luce, administratrix of the estate of William Seaborn Luce, was confirmed, the account approved and the administratrix ordered discharged. P. D. Kellett, Jr., was allowed a master's fee of \$25. Holmes & Stanley appeared for the petitioner. The account showed a balance due the administratrix of \$2448.87. By will the deceased left all of his estate to his wife, and in case she did not survive him to his two adopted daughters, Alice M. G. and Beatrice M. G. Luce. He left real estate of 43-100 acres on Wyllie street.

### THE HAYSLEDEN ESTATE.

Judge De Bolt approved the accounts of E. Faxon Bishop, trustee of the estate of Jas. G. Haysleden, deceased. It balances at \$2503.54. The inventory gives the estate a total valuation of \$20,548.38, of which \$5000 represents real estate.

### HARDLY WORTH APPRAISING.

H. Focke, George Stubber and Fr. Freudenberg, appraisers, have returned the value of the estate of In Chock, deceased, as \$61.80.

### JUDGMENT OPENED.

Judge De Bolt yesterday granted a motion by defendant to open judgment given to plaintiff by default on the 26th inst., in the case of A. W. T. Bottomley, trustee, vs. J. P. Rodriguez. It was shown that due notice of the hearing was not given, affidavits to

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that effect being produced from Henry Hogan, C. A. K. Hopkins and Rodrigues. Watson for plaintiff; Holmes & Stanley for defendant. The judgment was for \$189 and costs. Plaintiff is trustee of the Washington Mercantile Co., a corporation that used to do business in the old Masonic building, and the claim is for rent, which the defendant maintains he did not owe.

### AUTHORITY DEMANDED.

The Honolulu Brewing & Malting Co., Ltd., by its attorneys, Hatch & Ballou, files a motion that J. W. Cathcart and C. C. Bittling be required to produce the authority under which they claim to represent the plaintiff in the suit of Western Iron Works Co. against Victor Hoffman and the movant. A similar motion, referring to the same attorneys for plaintiff, is filed in the suit of Niehaus Brothers Co. vs. Honolulu Brewing & Malting Co.

With reference to the former case A. Hocking, treasurer of the local brewery company, makes affidavit that he has in his possession a letter from the Western Iron Works Co., saying that they are in no way responsible for any attorney's fees, as they did not retain anyone to do any business for them, but it appeared that Hoffman filed his claim in a lien and in some way they were a party to the suit. "Just how or where we stand," the letter runs, "is a mystery to us at the present writing."

### ISAAC NOAR'S CASE.

In the partition suit of Lee Chu and C. K. Ai against Isaac Noar and Julia Noar, Magoon and Lightfoot for plaintiffs give notice of motion for an order allowing them to file a supplemental bill.

The proposed bill is attached. It prays for a sale of the property owned in common by the parties on a showing that part of the premises described in the original bill was sold under foreclosure of mortgage, the plaintiffs being the purchasers, and that it is impracticable to partition the remainder. This is a leasehold interest, of which Lee Chu owns four, C. K. Ai five, Isaac Noar six and Julia Noar one sixteenth.

### MOTION FOR NEW TRIAL.

E. A. Douthitt, attorney for plaintiff, will this morning or as soon as he can be heard, present before Judge Gear motion for a new trial in the case of Jas. W. W. Brewster vs. Frederic J. Church.

### DEMURRER SUSTAINED.

Judge De Bolt sustained the demurrer and dismissed the complaint in the assumpsit suit of Lee See et al., vs. Yee Chin et al. Douthitt for plaintiff; Crook for two of the defendants.

### PILING UP DENIAL.

In denying the allegations in the complaint of Allen & Robinson, Ltd., vs. Lee Yick et al., defendants, Chim Mun Fook, Chin Mun Hin and Chin Mun Chee each swears that he has a good defense on the merits, to wit: that he was never a partner in any firm called Shun Look Co., that he was never a copartner of defendant Lau Wai, that the firm of Kong Long Chong alias Kwong Tung Chong and Lau Wai were never copartners, that he never authorized Lau Wai to bind him by signing the name Shun Look Co. to any note or other evidence of indebtedness such as set out in the complaint, that Allen & Robinson, Ltd., has never given any consideration for any promise by him to pay any such promissory note as is alleged and that he has never promised to pay any such promissory note.

First Author—"How many copies of your book have been sold?" Second Author—"I don't know. I haven't seen anything about the sales except the publisher's affidavit."—Life.